REMARKS

Claim 33 has been amended. Support for amended Claim 33 can be found in Figs. 2-4. Thus, no new matter has been added. Upon entry of this amendment, which is respectfully requested, Claims 33 and 35-45 will be pending.

Response to Rejection Under § 103

Claims 33-40 and 42-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,057,051 to Uchida et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,808,833 to Johnson. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Uchida discloses a fuel cell device packaged in a cell device casing **203** (Fig. 16) which has intake ports **16** and accommodates a fuel cell body **204** and hydrogen storage unit **205**. Accordingly, the fuel cell body **204** is integrated with the hydrogen storage unit **205** within the cell device casing **203**. This means that the fuel cell body **204** cannot be mechanically and individually separated from hydrogen storage unit **205**. Otherwise, the fuel cell device could not be miniaturized or micro-miniaturized as mentioned in the "Summary of Invention" section of Uchida.

On the other hand, the fuel cell according to the present invention has a fuel supply portion and a power generating section, both of which are mechanically separable from each other, as illustrated in Figs. 2-4 of the present specification. Both the fuel supply portion and the power generating section of the fuel cell are not packaged with in any casing. This separate structure of the fuel cell makes it possible to individually arrange the fuel supply portion and the power generating section in the vicinity of different, remote, portions of an electric device, such as a heat dissipating section in the heat producing section of the electric device. *See,* Figs. 2, 3a,

and 3b. In other words, the fuel cell according to the present invention may be called a package-free fuel cell.

In addition, the fuel supplying portion and a power generating section of a fuel cell, being mechanically separated from each other, are also connected to a fuel channel. Thus, the fuel cell is constituted by the fuel supplying portion, the power generating section, and the fuel channel or pipe. *See,* page 13, lines 8 to 9. This shows that the fuel supplying portion and the power generating section are never packaged in a casing for a fuel cell and can be individually located to different positions of an electronic device, as illustrated in Fig. 2, 3a, and 3b.

The Examiner asserts that the water retention means **8** is held in contact with the fuel cell body **4**, and therefore absorbs heat produced when the fuel cell body **4** generates electricity, thus contributing to evaporation of the retained moisture. However, the water retention means **8** and the fuel cell body **4** are both packaged within the casing **3** and, therefore, the heat produced is absorbed by the water retention means **8** within the casing **3**.

Uchida fails to disclose or suggest a fuel cell which mechanically separates the fuel supplying means and the power generating section connected by the fuel channel, without being packaged within a casing. Johnson fails to make up for this deficiency. Thus, Uchida and Johnson fail to render obvious the present claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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